Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S NEWLY FORMED REGIONAL SERVICES DIVISION ANNOUNCES NEW MANAGERS

New approach will allow better delivery of services to communities, businesses and economic developers in Mississippi

JACKSON, Miss. – In February 2003, the Mississippi Development Authority announced the formation of its new Regional Services Division. Designed to better deliver programs and services to communities, businesses and economic developers across the state, the Regional Services Division includes seven regional offices located in Greenwood, Meridian, Hattiesburg, Tupelo, Biloxi, Summit and Jackson.

"The Mississippi Development Authority is continually searching for new and innovative ways to meet the needs of communities across the state. Our Regional Services Division is now structured to deliver our programs and services in the most efficient and effective way possible," said Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., Executive Director of MDA.

Steve Hardin, Director of the Regional Services Division, agrees that this new approach will be beneficial for the entire state: "By consolidating programs and services and having experienced, knowledgeable leadership through the Regional Offices, MDA can make our resources more accessible to the people we serve."

MORE

A total of 24 staff members, including the director, comprise the division. The managers and contact information for each regional office are as follows:

Northwest Regional Office: Frank Short, Manager 522 West Park Village, Ste. O Greenwood, MS 38930 Phone - 662.455.4508 Fax - 662.455.7903

Counties served: Attala, Bolivar, Carroll,

 $Coahoma,\, Desoto,\, Grenada,\, Holmes,\, Humphreys,\,$

Issaquena, Leflore, Montgomery, Panola,

Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate,

Tunica, Washington, Yalobusha

East Central Regional Office: *Mitchell Howard, Manager*

2401 11th Street Meridian, MS 39301 Phone – 601.692.2006 Fax – 601.484.2579

Counties served: Choctaw, Clarke, Clay, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Lowndes, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Scott, Smith,

Webster, Winston

Southeast Regional Office: Angie Cognevich, Manager 420 West Pine Street Hattiesburg, MS 39403 Phone – 601.545.4001 Fax – 601.545.4006

Counties served: Covington, Forrest, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Perry, Wayne

Northeast Regional Office: *Bill Mobley, Manager* 330 West Jefferson Street Tupelo, MS 38804

Phone – 662.844.5413 Fax – 662.842.3667

Counties served: Alcorn, Benton, Calhoun, Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Marshall, Monroe, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo, Union

Gulf Coast Regional Office: *Bill Webb, Manager*

1636 Popps Ferry Road, Ste. 203

Biloxi, MS 39532 Phone – 228.396.5518 Fax – 228.392.0940

Counties served: George, Hancock, Harrison,

Jackson, Pearl River, Stone

Southwest Regional Office: Paul Walker, Manager

Southwest Mississippi Community College

Brumfield Building Summit, MS 39666 Phone – 601.276.3089 Fax – 601.276.3870

Counties served: Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike,

Walthall, Wilkinson

West Central Regional Office:

Manager (TBA) 501 North West Street Jackson, MS 39201 Phone – 601.359.3593 Fax – 601.359.2832

Counties served: Copiah, Hinds, Madison,

Rankin, Simpson, Warren, Yazoo

For more information about MDA's programs and services, contact the Regional Services Division at 601.359.2457 or visit MDA on the World Wide Web at www.mississippi.org.